

12 January 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CIA Historical Staff

SUBJECT : Status of the DDI Historical Program,
31 December 1972

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The DDI Historical Program is moving steadily ahead toward completion of a major portion of the program by the end of the current fiscal year. To this end, there has been some consolidation of papers and some adjustment in the assignment of personnel to work on histories. Three papers were published during the reporting period -- the third volume of the overall [REDACTED] history and two monographs -- and publication of two more papers is imminent. The total of published histories now stands at 27 out of a total program of 50. Of the 23 histories currently scheduled, drafts have been completed for 13 and drafts are more than half finished for 5 others. This leaves only 5 papers that are less than half written.

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[REDACTED] is nearing the midpoint in his revision and rewriting of the original draft history of the DDI's office.

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CRS has adopted a committee system in an effort to complete its history. [REDACTED] formerly full time on the project, retired in July but completed the first section of the paper under a contract arrangement. Eight writers - seven part time staff employees and one annuitant on contract - are preparing individual inputs on the specialized functions of the former Office of Central Reference. [REDACTED] will coordinate the inputs and write the remaining parts of the history, some of which she has already done. The parts of the paper that are now in hand look promising and there finally appears to be a legitimate basis for believing that this history can be completed reasonably soon.

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The Domestic Contact Service, on the other hand, is the one office that, because of the pressure of its workload, has made no recent progress toward completing its historical program.

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Review of the final [REDACTED] history - the one dealing with [REDACTED] - has been virtually completed. Final typing of this history should begin within the month.

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IRS's history of the Collection Guidance Staff has been nearly finished by [REDACTED] who took over when the original author retired. It will be submitted to the Historical Staff as soon as component review is completed.

Publication of the first volume of NPIC's overall history is imminent, and the draft of the second volume is more than half finished. The same author is scheduled to write the third volume. Relatively little progress has been made in revising the two remaining monographs.


Since the appointment of a full time historical officer last summer, OBGI has made a number of revisions in its program, mostly in the direction of absorbing scheduled monographs into larger overall histories of Geography Division and Cartography Division. The three authors involved in preparing these division histories are moving ahead, but none has yet neared the half-way mark in his task. The remaining monographs, however, are progressing fairly well; in only one case is the first draft not fully completed.

OCI and OER have both finished their contributions, except for making revisions and doing final typing. At the moment, these two offices are concentrating their efforts on papers scheduled under the on-going program while awaiting the return of their manuscripts after review -- and in one case, rewriting -- by the Historical Staff.

OSR's history, now titled "Development of Strategic Research at CIA: 1947-67" is nearing the end of an extensive program of revision and review within the Office and Directorate. OSR anticipates submitting this paper for Historical Staff review within the current quarter.

Four histories are under way in connection with the on-going program. Two of these are in OER and in both cases the authors -- one an annuitant on contract and one a full time staff employee -- have already begun to do some writing. The papers scheduled by NPIC and OCI are being researched.

With the cancellation of two marginal papers and the reorganization of the historical effort in some of the individual offices, the DDI Historical Program is currently in a healthy state. Drafts of all the major histories (except the third volume from NPIC) are promised by the end of the fiscal year, and steady progress is being made in the tedious progression of DDI histories from draft form to publication.


DDI Historical Officer

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